

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-07 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OES-05 FEAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 ARAE-00 /109 W

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P R 051530Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7999

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

IAEA VIENNA 0059

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0075

US MISSION OECD PARIS 0191

UNCLAS BRASILIA 1652

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN FINANCE MINISTER'S PRESS INTERVIEW ON NUCLEAR  
POWER NEGOTIATIONS

1. SUMMARY - BRAZILIAN PRESS HEADLINING SIMONSEN PRESS CONFERENCE  
IN FRANKFURT ANNOUNCING NEGOTIATIONS WITH GERMAN FIRMS FOR FOUR  
OR FIVE NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS. PRESS ALSO SPECULATES ON NUCLEAR  
ENRICHMENT FACILITY AS PART OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM. END  
SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 4, MAJOR BRAZILIAN PAPERS CARRIED FRONT-PAGE REPORTS  
ON FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN'S PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN  
IN FRANKFURT DURING HIS CURRENT EUROPEAN TOUR. ACCORDING TO  
ACCOUNTS IN O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO AND JORNAL DO BRASIL  
SIMONSEN ACKNOWLEDGED GOB IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH  
KERNKRAFTWERKE UNION, SUBSIDIARY OF SIEMENS AND AEG, FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR OR FIVE NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS.

3. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO ATTACHES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE  
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TO THE MINISTER'S STATEMENT. IF THE STATEMENT IS REPORTED

CORRECTLY, THE PAPER SAYS, THIS WOULD "MAKE OFFICIAL" THE DECISION OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT TO LINK UP WITH GERMAN FIRMS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FULL-FLEDGED NUCLEAR INDUSTRY, NOT ONLY NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS, BUT ALSO A URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT. ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, THE ENRICHMENT FACILITY WOULD BE THE SECOND STAGE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR INDUSTRY, UTILIZING A CENTRIFUGE PROCESS PRESENTLY UNDER STUDY IN GERMANY, BUT NOT YET TESTED ON AN INDUSTRIAL SCALE.

4. O ESTADO REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT SOURCES IN BRAZIL HAD RECEIVED NEWS OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE WITH "RESERVE". THEY HAVE NOTED THE EXISTENCE OF A TECHNICAL-COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN GERMANY AND BRAZIL INVOLVING THE TRAINING OF BRAZILIAN ENGINEERS IN URANIUM ENRICHMENT TECHNIQUES AND "NOTHING MORE". ACCORDING TO SAME GOB SOURCES, BRAZIL WILL SHORTLY OPEN TO INTERNATIONAL BIDDING THE PURCHASE OF EIGHT NUCLEAR REACTORS; WESTERN GERMANY COMPANIES ARE EXPECTED TO APPEAR AS BIDDERS. IF SIMONSEN'S STATEMENTS ARE CONFIRMED THE PAPER COMMENTS, THIS WOULD INDICATE THAT POWERFUL US AND FRENCH COMPANIES, ALSO INTERESTED IN COLLABORATING WITH THE GOB IN THE NUCLEAR AREA, HAVE BEEN PUSHED ASIDE. CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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